

Good Morning,

I have some concerns about the proposed social science framework for 11th grade, U.S. History. My biggest concern is the scope of the content. Since social science is the subject that most supports the the ELA common core (evaluation of bias, synthesizing source information, looking for tone, etc,) we have already increased the amount of instructional time to accommodate for teaching historical thinking and writing skills. The extra content would make the breadth of this class impossible to teach in the course of one year.

In addition, some of the content appears to belong in a sociology elective class rather than in a general U.S. history survey course. While I do favor including social history, including information about the contributions of gay-Americans, I think much of the information about the changing understanding of gender roles , particularly discussion of the Kinsey Report, is going to be beyond the intellectual ability and maturity of high school students. Furthermore, I am concerned that there may be some blow-back from conservative parents regarding some of these issues. Our profession is already demonized by certain elements of the media, and I am concerned that some of these topics may give fodder to fuel resentment toward the public educational system, giving aid to the voucher movement/for-profit schools.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

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